

Brooking Street Bulletin

Issue #21, 18th July 2008



Buddhist Discussion Centre (Upwey) Ltd.
A.C.N. 005 701 806 A.B.N. 42 611 496 488
33 Brooking Street, Upwey, Victoria 3158
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Abbot's Report

Dear Friends in the Dhamma,

“When your Temple is as important as your life, you've got it!” John D. Hughes 2003.

This Founder's Day, 9th September 2008, we will complete 30 years of operating as a Buddha Dhamma Centre.

Thank you for your friendship, generosity and support, as together we continue the vision of our late Founder Master John D. Hughes, that: “the Buddha Dhamma be taught”.

In recollecting some of the meritorious activities during the past year, we can rejoice in our merits and share these merits with past, present and future Members and all beings for the purpose of awakening the mind. Some of these activities include:

- Opening of The John D. Hughes Dhamma Cetiya, meditation hall and library.
- United Nations Day of Vesak Celebration Event
- Our weekly Teaching program at our Centre and our ten week course 'Learn to Practice Buddhism' conducted at Burringja in Upwey and at the Glen Park Community Centre in Bayswater.
- Chan Academy monthly classes for Sumie and Chan Painting.
- Digitisation of Buddha Dhamma Teachings
- Raising in excess of \$3619.55 annual income from our Camberwell Market Stall and raffles.
- This year, to date, raising \$1429.19 for the Dhammarajika Orphanage in Bangladesh.

Rejoice in the merits yet to be made. To commemorate our 30 years, the following events are planned :

Important Dates

Saturday Weekly	Members' Day 11.00am Buddhism Class for Beginners & Continuers
Saturday evenings	8.00pm Buddha Dhamma Meditation Teaching by Venerable Sangha or guided by Anita Carter
19 th July Saturday	2.00pm Guru Puja
26 th July Saturday	2.00pm Chan Painting taught by Melba Neilsen 5:30pm General Meeting
1 st August Saturday	Organising for Chan Exhibition
3 rd August Sunday	Camberwell Market Stall
9 th August Saturday	1pm Directors Meeting 2pm Annual General Meeting
10 th August Sunday	1pm Chan Exhibition Opening at Burringja
30 th August Saturday	5:30pm General Meeting
5 th to 9 th September	Four Day Bhavana Course
Saturday 6 th September	420 Buddha's Installation Ceremony
Sunday 7 th September	Father's Day Flower stall
Tuesday 9 th September	30 th Anniversary of Founder's Day Celebration

- The installation of 420 of the 1000 Buddhas in our Hall, that will take place on Saturday 6th of September 2008;
- Our Chan Academy First Annual Exhibition being opened at Burringja on 10th August 2008 at 1pm.
- A team of five members to attend the WFB Conference in Japan from 13th to 17th November 2008;
 - Five Day meditation Course with

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Venerable U Pandita.

I look forward to seeing you and send my love to you all. ~Anita Carter

Bhante Kassapa Visits our Centre

What a wonderful treat we experienced to have Venerable Bhante Kassapa visit us on Friday 4th July 2008. Bhante expressed great gratitude to our founder Master John D. Hughes and gave a beautiful teaching on the Buddha Dhamma. Our new students thoroughly enjoyed and learnt from this. We have filmed Bhante's talk, so I encourage each and everyone of you to see it.

Annual General Meeting

Notice is hereby given that that Annual General Meeting of the Buddhist Discussion Centre (Upwey) Ltd will be held at 2pm on Saturday 9th August 2008, at 33 Brooking Street, Upwey, Vic 3158. All Members are invited to attend.

Just a reminder for Members who have not paid their annual Members subscription to please forward your payment for the year ahead.

Monthly General Meeting

Our next General Meeting will be held on Saturday the 26th July, 2008 at 5.30pm. All Members are encouraged to attend to support our Centre. We require a quorum of 7 members to conduct our General Meetings.

Live Better with Metta! Our 2008 Slogan Developing our metta practice.

This involves chanting the metta sutta in Pali and English everyday, daily metta meditation using Venerable Mahinda's instructions on CD and sending metta to each person you meet. "It is through Love alone that hate is concurred"
- The Buddha, Dhammapada

Chan Painting Exhibition

The Chan Academy is holding its first annual painting exhibition titled "The Four Seasons, The Four Friends" at Burrinja Gallery in Upwey from the 9th-24th August 2008.

The opening of the exhibition will be held on Sunday 10th August, 2008 at 1-3 pm and will be opened by the Mayor of the Shire of Yarra Ranges, Councillor Tim Heenan. The exhibition will include works by Chan painter and Teacher Melba Nielsen, Sumi-e painter and Teacher Jan Bennett, and Chan students Helen Costas, Anita Carter, Julian Bamford, and paintings by the late Masters John D. Hughes and the Late Master Andre Sollier.

WFB Conference 14th - 17th November 2008, Japan.

Anita Carter, Frank Carter, Tanya Poynton, Helen Costas and Adam Richards are the current members who will be going to the conference. They will depart on the November the 12th and return on the 20th of November.

Guru Puja Part of Our Monthly Program

The Guru Puja is designed to develop deep gratitude to our Teacher and Teachers, all the way back to the Buddha of this age. It is to help us stay connected with our Teacher, John D. Hughes and makes the causes for us to meet again. It is designed to request help and guidance to ensure that the Centre is operating according to the rules laid down by the Founder to ensure our Centre last for at least 500 years. It is designed to develop confidence in our ability to run this Centre within the Triple Gem.

One Thousand Buddhas Offering

To celebrate the 30 years since the Founding of the Buddhist Discussion Centre in 1978, we will hold an installation ceremony in the new hall of

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approximately 420 Buddha images on Saturday 6th September 2008. All members are requested to attend. The day will start with offering lunch to Venerable monks and nuns followed by blessing of the Buddha images, and then installing the images around the inside of our hall. Frank Carter and George Costas will arrange for shelving to be fitted around the hall where the images will be installed. Every person will carry Buddha images and offer them to the installer.

Bhavana Course

Our Bhavana Courses for this year will be held from 5th September to 9th September and from 27th December to 31st December 2008.

Flower Stall Fundraisers

Our next flower stall fundraiser is on Father's Day 7th of September 2008. Our Mother's Day Flower Stall Fundraiser was a great success generating a net profit of \$1788 from the sale of 217 bunches of flowers. Thank you to Frank Carter for coordinating the stall, arranging flowers and contacting everyone for the roster.

Dhammarajika Orphanage - Urgent Appeal For Help.

US\$900 was transferred to the Dhammarajika Orphanage in May. Thank you to everyone who contributed to this offering.

Thank you to Melba who has decided to make a monthly offering of \$20 to our orphanage appeal.

Established in 1972 for homeless children, they have provided thousands of orphans with safe shelter, food, clothing, medical care, education and basic living needs.

Today in Bangladesh, one of the poorest and most densely populated countries in the world, the economic and food situation is in crisis. Nearly half

the population survives on less than \$1 a day. The price of rice, the staple food, has soared in the past year. The World Food Program warns that countries, such as Bangladesh, are heading towards being unable to feed themselves.

Since 1983 we have helped the children of Dhammarajika Orphanage in Bangladesh through fundraising in our local community.

Our most recent fundraising project is an appeal we have made to local schools that they consider holding a special event such as a Free Dress Day or a Coins for Rice Appeal, or some other suitable activity to help raise funds for the orphanage.

This is an urgent call for help.

We are a self-help charitable organisation registered with the Government of Victoria under the Fundraising Appeals Act. Our registration number is 8121.

Buddhist Hour News

Our Buddhist Hour Team is developing well. Welcome two new Buddhist Hour Members Daniel White and Simon Kearney who joined our team on Sunday 8th June for their first broadcast. Both Daniel and Simon are interested in being regular presenters and we will train them in all the radio team roles including the panel over the next few months.

Working with Children Check

Any person who is volunteering at an organisation and may find themselves in contact with children, must be registered under the Working with Children Act 2005.

As we do have children attend our Centre, to avoid any possibility of non-compliance, we are

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requesting all our members to complete an application form at your earliest convenience.

Forms are available at the Centre or at your nearest Post Office or we have a number of them at the centre.

Once completed you need to take the form to the post office and provide identification for a 100 point check - eg. passport, licence and medicare card.

The penalties for both the individual and the organisation for failing to comply with the act are severe.